FEEDBACK

South London DAM

South London DAM-IWA holds fortnightly meetings every other Saturday at 121 Bookshop, 121 Railton Road, London SE24 Tel:(01)2746655. Next meeting Midday on April 27th.

Central London DAM

First meeting will be held on Friday 19 April, 7.15 pm. Contact South or East London DAM for venue; sponsoring Central London DAM members will be notified direct. Discussion on forthcoming industrial activity. New members welcome, especially from among anarcho-syndicalists not yet in DAM. A future open meeting will be held to explain anarcho-syndicalism to friends in industry.

Radio Libertaire

Radio Libertaire is still going: it now has the fifth highest listening rating in the Paris area. It broadcasts on 89.4 MHz, and can be contacted at *Le Monde Libertaire bookshop, 145 rue Amelot, 75011 Paris, FRANCE.*

The latest initiative is to create a Libertarian Theatre: to be known as the Theatre Libertaire de Paris Music-Hall (perhaps we should mention that though the French use the English word 'Music-Hall' they don't mean the same thing as we do, or did, but literally what it says).

Lyon Ⓐ Event

The Lyon Anarchist Group *Coordination Libertaire* have organised a special 2 day event on Saturday May 18th and the Sunday May 19th at the Centre Pierre Valdo, 176 rue Pierre Valdo, Lyon.

The programme includes exhibitions, videos, debates and music. They have also arranged a screening of the film *Le Couteau dans la tete* at the Le Zola Cinema in Villeurbanne on Tuesday May 14th. If you intend going, please tell: *Coordination Libertaire, c/o A.C.L.R., 13 rue Pierre Blanc, 69001 Lyon, France.*

CAMBRIDGE SYNDICALIST

No 1, April '85, Paper of the Cambridge Direct Action Movement. A well-produced broadsheet containing local news on a Domestics strike at Addenbrookes Hospital, a report on the local claimants union, etc. 5p from Box DAM, Cambridge Free Press, 25 Gwydir St, Cambridge.

UMANITA NOVA

March 1985. Weekly anarchist paper and organ of the Italian Anarchist Federation. Price 600 Lire. *Federazione Anarchica di Milano, Viale Monza 255, 20126 Milano, ITALY.*

L'ENTR'AIDE

March 85. A well produced bi-monthly anarchist journal containing lots of information on anti-militarist/anarchist prisoners (many under threat of extradition) in France. Price 8 Frs. *c/o J.C. Canonne, BP 175, 75963 Paris, Cedex 20. FRANCE.*

Nearly all the I.W.A. Sections have their own papers. The list below tells you where to obtain them.

ASO International Gruppe
Kirkebakken 70
4736 Karrebaeksminde,
Denmark.

CNTF
33 Rue des Vignoles
75020 Paris

FAU
Postlagert. Nr. 092822 A
5000 Koln I
West Germany

NSF
Boks 1977
Vika Oslo
(Also Northern Sub-Secretariat address)

ASF
Box = 139
28600 Orkelljunga
Sweden

IWA Secretariat
C/- Magdalena 29
Madrid Spain

Macclesfield Squatters Aid

Macclesfield Squatters Aid group inform us that one of their squats, 6 Winchester Court, is under threat of eviction from the local Council. Messages of protest against the eviction can be made to Mr Rudd (Senior Housing Officer) Tel: (0025) 21955 ext. 311

121 Again

121 Bookshop, from which Black Flag is distributed, is once more being threatened with eviction (wot, not again?). This time Lambeth Council Legal Department have notified the bookshop collective of an actual date for the eviction court hearing: May 17 and 20.

The 121 Collective is not ready to go to court and calls on friends and supporters to protest to: G Lewsey, Directorate of Administration and Legal Services, London Borough of Lambeth, Lambeth Town Hall, Brixton Hill, London SW2



BLACK FLAG

30p

No.130 15.4.85

ANARCHIST FORTNIGHTLY

GENERAL STRIKE IN DENMARK



100,000 DEMONSTRATE OUTSIDE PARLIAMENT.

The strike began as collective bargaining broke down, with the employers offering a meagre 2% rise in wages, which would be an average, the lowest wage earners receiving much less than 2% rises. A one hour reduction in the working week was offered, in 1987! People earning over £10,000 are to lend 7% of their wage to the Government, with no interest, to be returned in 5 years. New laws to give the Social Democratic Government greater powers to control industrial disputes, were proposed during the strike.

The Labour Organisation (L.O.) with a membership of 1,380,000, called for a mass demonstration outside Parliament on Friday 22nd March, in Copenhagen. Demands were a 35 hour week, a raise in lowest wages, and a general rise in living standards.

200,000 strikers rallied throughout Denmark, while in Copenhagen, 100,000 people marched, as the nine bridges leading to the Parliament were blocked, preventing MPs from getting into the building. Police were taken completely by surprise - this was the first time this action had been taken in Danish history, and the Parliament is usually unguarded. Less than half of the parliamentarians were present by 9.00am, so the chairman was forced to make a long speech. At one point the police had to withdraw, but by 9.30 they had broken through the blockade.

Strike pay had been paid up to this point, as the strike was "official".

After meetings on the weekend, the Shop Stewards Circle, which has no official bargaining power, called for mass strikes on Monday 25th March. The Communist Party stewards in the circle were calling for a "24 hour general strike" (sound familiar?).

Strikes rocked the whole of Denmark. More than a thousand factories were closed, many more than during the "legal" strike. Teachers, Postal workers mechanics, dockers, nurses rallied, and buses, trains and ferries stopped operating. Technicians in radio and television walked out, and broadcasts came to a halt, except for newsflashes about the strike. Before the trains stopped, they went uncleaned, as private cleaners walked out. Scandinavian airlines cancelled all flights. Many newspapers did not publish, and brewery workers stopped work. Traffic was blockaded in some cities, while at Fvem, an island, mass pickets convinced the workers in a factory to go on strike. Police cars were overturned as pickets retaliated to police attacks. In Odense, 3,000 people gathered at a protest meeting, and police cars were overturned again. In Naestved, workers in a car factory were picketed and came out.

Meanwhile the L.O. had refused any support for the strikes, which continued for the next 2 days, most going back before Easter, to make sure of holiday pay, as the union bureaucrats had refused to open strike-funds.

As we go to press, mass meetings are planned for Tuesday 9th April, and a day of action on Wednesday 10th April.

SOURCE: ASO-IWA

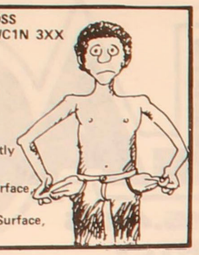
BOLIVIA - UNREST CONTINUES



BOLIVIAN SOLDIERS MOBILISE AGAINST C.O.B. SEE INSIDE...

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Questions and Answers on Anarchism

Q: Do you envisage an anarchist society as being an industrialised society?

A: *Not necessarily. An anarchist society, being above all a free society where one can* choose, *is unlikely to be heavily industrialised, whereas a State society, aimed at getting the maximum production out of its citizens,* is *likely to be so. It may well be that when the workers have control of their industries, they will break it down into smaller units, which will be far easier to control, and even - to judge by trends one can see already - into one-person units or small collectives. They need now to organise industrially to defend their interests and to change the economic system; but when they have control of their interests and have changed the economic system, it is unlikely people will want to work in mass production, but there is no reason why they shouldn't and still remain independent of rulers from above.*

NEWS HOME NEWS

Police Aid

Trade Union stewards at the March 6 rally in central London in protest at rate-capping were thanked by the police for their part in controlling the crowds and for helping to restore order after Chief Scab, Norman Willis (TUC General Secretary) was nearly mobbed by a contingent of angry miners, fire-workers and anarchists.

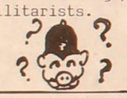
The stewards were later invited to Scotland Yard to view a video-tape of the incident and provide backup evidence.

April Fool

Over 100 police in the City of London were made fools of by the Anarchist April Fool Group on 1st April when they were diverted to a demonstration that never happened!

The police spent Monday morning outside branches of Barclays Bank in the city guarding them, after receiving information about a planned Stop the City demonstration similar to those in 1984. But the information was false and no demonstration occurred.

This action was carried out to protest against continuing police attacks on anti-militarists.



Anarchy on 45

According to *Verbal Assault* (South Hants Anarchist Paper), the B-side of the Blue bell's (a popular rock band) latest single is the old Industrial Workers of the World (industrial unionist/syndicalist organisation of the USA, Chile etc.) classic *I dreamed I Saw Joe Hill Last Night*. Joe Hill was a singer/poet who was murdered by the State of Utah for his IWW agitator activities.

While we're on the subject, *Socialist Worker* (Tony Cliff lead Trots) band the Redskins have just brought out a compilation LP (featuring various bands) on their own *Confederacion Nacional de Trabajo* label and use an old CNT-AIT poster circa 1936 on the front cover!

Rumours that Duran Duran's next single will be the revolutionary hymn *A las barracadas* cannot be confirmed at present...

Police Cut

Over £8m worth of cuts, resulting in the cancellation of the orders of new equipment, etc, is being made by the Metroplitan Police in London. The cuts are being forced on them not by government policy but, according to the Mets own paper The Job, as a direct result of the Miners Strike. Apparently the Met expected to be reimbursed for the cost of sending their thug contingents to the occupied mining areas, but they have recently discovered otherwise.

Scabby Dog Story

On Monday 25th February at the University of Kent at Canterbury, Irene Gibbon, a leading local Tory and wife of a professional strike-breaker, Robert McGibbon came to address a meeting called by the Federation of Conservative Students. Backed by the 'Freedom Association', the McGibbons led the back-to-work movement in the Kent coalfield just as they had spearheaded anti-union activities at British Leyalands' Cowley plant.

Robert McGibbon broke a signed agreement in which he had promised not to go back to work "while the present strike lasts" when he was the first to contravene the overwhelming strike-vote in Kent. He knew this would mean withdrawal of safety cover for the pits, the loss of coal deliveries to the old and infirm and thus endangering the lives of some and the jobs of all the mining community in Kent.

Anarchists and socialists who found Mrs McGibbon's presence objectionable were physically attacked for heckling by Rugby Club bouncers who had been working out all afternoon in the gym. During the subsequent punch-up the police turned up with usual speed and escorted McGibbon away amid a torrent of abuse from students and miner's wives who had been invited to argue the miner's case. Now Mrs McGibbon's Tory friends are putting pressure on the Vice-Chancellor to take disciplinary action against a number of students.

Hypocrites like the McGibbons talk about freedom of speech but they are the enemies of those who desire a free society, since they have the propertied class, its mass media and the whole State apparatus on their side. We have nothing but our voices, our fists and our solidarity.

IWA Northern Sections Conference

On Saturday, April 6th and Sunday, April 7th around 40 people representing the Norweigan (NSF), German (FAU), Danish (ASO) and British (DAM) Sections of the IWA attended the Northern IWA Conference in Dalston, East London. Observers from the CNT (France), OVB (Holland) and a member of the IWA Secretariat (Spain) were also present. The Conference was held in English - the official language of the Northern Sections of the IWA. Greetings from the WSA (USA) and ASF of Sweden were read out.

On the first day, delegates from the sections and observers gave reports on the situation in their respective countries. The IWA Secretariat member informed the Conference that a visit to Latin America was planned in the near future. She also reported that 2 pamphlets, including one on the underground/black economy, were ready to be distributed. The International Secretary of the DAM-IWA thanked all the IWA Sections for their support during the miners strike, and all sections present later agreed to adopt miners in prison as soon as possible. DAM agreed to co-ordinate this work.

ASO reminded the Conference that an IWA Summer Camp is to be organised in Denmark between July 13th and 27th to which all IWA members are invited -all those who intend to come are asked to notify them at least 6 weeks in advance and to also pay £20 towards costs in advance. This was agreed unanimously.

The main discussion centred on the miners strike in Britain and each delegate reported how the strike had affected their respective country and organisation. A collection for jailed miners at the end of the first day raised £30 and 100 French Francs.



On the second day, new technology was discussed at length - how the boss can monitor the worker more easily, how the "socially useful" technology, eg. Visual Display Units for the handicapped, is used to justify technology which is directly in conflict with workers interests. Throughout Europe, and elsewhere, workers are being made redundant, and we have to look forward to see new tactics to use against these attacks.

The Danish General Strike was described in detail, (see separate report) including the Scandinavian management deals with labour organisations, making strikes "illegal" and liable for fines, unless they are sanctioned by both parties. A conference of unemployed people is planned in Denmark, soon.

Co-ordination of information between the sections of the IWA was discussed, and more frequent exchange of publications. An IWA Congress on Unemployment is planned for later in the year. The next Northern IWA Conference will be in Denmark, Easter 1986.

After the conference in London, a comrade of the FAU was knocked down and seriously injured by a speeding car outside the conference hall. At the time of going to press, she is still in a coma in hospital. Both the DAM and the Black Flag Collective and all visiting comrades of the IWA wish her a speedy recovery.

INDUSTRIAL

US Miners Killed

21 miners, 4 supervisors and 2 corporate executives were killed on December 19th when an Orangeville, Utah coal mine burst into flames. Only one worker in the affected area managed to escape.

The miners were trying to break the world record of mining 21,000 tons of coal in one shift, under the prodding of corporate executives, in what United Mine Workers President Richard Trumka later called a 'race towards death'. The disaster struck just one month after workers ended their strike against Emery Mining Company, owned by Utah Power and Light. Apparently the blaze was sparked when a fast-moving conveyor belt carrying coal down a tunnel overheated under the strain and ignited the seam of coal being mined. The disaster raised the death toll in the mining industry to 123 for 1984, up from 70 in 1983.

SOURCE: Industrial Worker.

Retaliation

One of many, perhaps, incidents that are taking place around the mining communities, is retaliatory actions such as that which took place in Shirebrook recently. The police station was attacked systematically in revenge for the part the police play in strikebreaking - although no justification is required, only an excuse to go on the offensive.

Unfortunately there were five arrests. More dismissals inevitably, but perhaps at least some satisfaction by those who took part in the action. The attack took place several times one evening. The police station itself sustained damage, including smashed windows; two policemen were also injured. A patrol car was attacked as well when a lump of concrete was hurled at it; another patrol car was damaged. Although there were five arrests - so far on charges of criminal damage - press reports indicated that there were others involved too. At least they wern't caught.

Political Levy

It's union conference season, with one of the big debates on how to fight to keep the political levy - many trade unions, however, are finding it a battle to keep the levy, given that some members are either moving rightwards or are becoming disillusioned with the Labour Party altogether. The answer is all very simple: the political levy can be kept, but to be used not for any one political party (or any political party for that matter), but to be used strictly as a union Defence Fund.

Most trade unions have a Defence Fund already, usually used to assist in their own industrial actions. A wider Defence Fund, made more substantial through a levy (in place of the Labour Party levy), could be used in conjunction with other union Defence Funds as an inter-union fund to assist all industrial disputes - a sort of Union Solidarity Fund. This should be the real purpose of any union political funds anyway.

STRIKE CONTINUES

Not publicised is the fact that many miners, especially in Scotland, Kent and South Yorkshire, have refused to go back still while their dismissed comrades are either imprisoned or without reinstatement. A Kent miner told Black Flag that he knows of many like himself who have refused to go back. As the strike is officially over they are not getting any support for their actions from the NUM. In the end they have been forced to resign.

For many the final straw was the capitulation on the issue of the ballot. It has also been explained that those who refused to go back, circumstances being what they are, have - as a matter of principle - refused to accept redundancy payments. These miners are now without money, job or support. Currently both the NCB and the NUM are putting out dismissal figures not taking into account the resignations that have taken place out of solidarity with dismissed or imprisoned comrades.

RANK & FILE CONFERENCE

As a result of the failure by miners, trade unionists and the workers movement generally to win the strike against pit closures, several local NUM branches, power workers branches, rail workers branches, unemployed workers groups, Trades Councils and brances of the Direct Action Movement (anarchist-syndicalists), have organised a Rank and File Organising Conference at Kellingley Miners Welfare on April 20 - 21 in order to discuss setting up an alternative to the TUC and reformist trade unionism. Sessions will include the Role of the Police, the part the unemployed can play in industrial action, etc.

Overnight accommodation and a creche is available. Registration fee is £3 (free to strikers and the unemployed). Credentials from A Chamber 15 Acres St, Keighley, W Yorkshire.

Miners Gaoled

Five miners have been gaoled for conspiracy to commit arson. They were caught because they had used their own vehicle and a witness spotted their car registration plate.

The incident took place last July and received virtually no publicity. Their target was a scab haulage firm near Colchester. It seems that they were well sussed and had lookouts posted and had organised good incendiaries. They broke into the yard by cutting a hole through the perimeter fence, next they cut the fuel pipes to the lorries and storage tanks, letting out around 3000 gallons of diesel. They intended to ignite the fuel with four molotovs and a homemade incendiary consisting of a small bottle of shotgun cartridges with a straw as a fuse.

Things must have gone badly wrong though because the alarm was raised when a nearby resident spotted the flames before any real damage could be done.

The five miners (Emlyn Davies, Garry Newell, Mark Best, James Wadell and Brian Day) are all from the Kent area. They were each given five years; details of prison, etc, will be publicised as soon as we know them.





Union Carbide

The Employees Union of Union Carbide, India has told of events which led to the release of the deadly pesticide, methyl isocyanate, (MIC) from the Bhopal factory. Officially, 2,500 people died from its effects, but the Union believes it could yet be 10,000! 200,000 people remain affected with blindness, lung disorders, extreme fatigue, rashes, cysts, jaundice, severe nervous disorders, and some may become spastic. Women have complained of discharges, bleeding, abdominal pains and irregular menstruation. Over 100 women spontaneously aborted, and 22 still births were recorded in December alone.

In 1982-3, the company began laying off workers, attempting to CUT COSTS, and the already appalling safety record went down fast. Workers saw gas leaks, accidents, and the death of one factory worker. The Indian plant did not have the computerised early warning system that the US factory has had installed.

After an accident in 1982, the Union distributed 6,000 posters warning of the dangers, and in October, workers launched a hunger strike to draw attention to the situation. An investigating committee said the Union's fear of a disaster was 'imagination'. Those who persisted were threatened and dismissed. After the accident, a US doctor callously told the *New York Times* that 'half of those killed wouldn't have been alive if it weren't for the plant, and



the modern health standards made possible by the wide use of pesticides.' Doublethink, or what?

Union Carbide is the 7th largest in the world chemical industry and is worth US $9 billion. It has plants in nine of India's cities.

These corporate terrorists, and the Government leeches who ignored the warnings of the Union, should be dealt with once and for all. The Union demands that the company leaves Bhopal, but wants to retain jobs by converting this lethal factory to socially useful production. Local trade unionists have called for international co-operation and popular control of production.

Research is urgently needed into the effects of MIC - information can be sent to: *Outwrite, Oxford House, Derbyshire Street, London E2.*

INTERNATIONAL NEWS INTERNATIONAL

BOLIVIA

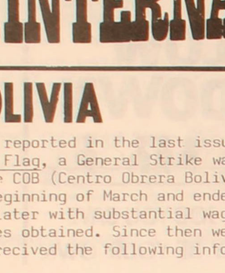
As reported in the last issue of Black Flag, a General Strike was called by the COB (Centro Obrera Bolivia) at the beginning of March and ended 16 days later with substantial wage increases obtained. Since then we have recived the following information.

BACKGROUND

The economic policy of frequent mini-devaluations of Bolivian currency, adopted by the government in a country where production is nearly always semi-paralysed, causes currency exchange rates to vary dramatically from day to day. This affects all economic matters, from wages to prices, and has often disasterous consequences for the working class.

More recently, the strong position of the US dollar and the incompetence of the UDP ('socialist') government to tackle the economic crisis, has pushed the working class into a desperate, confrontational position.

In response to the latest governmental economic plan (based in turn on pressure from the IMF and the USA for more austerity), the COB has mobilised popular support and has attempted to impose its own solution to the crisis. Inspired by the mineworkers of Oruro, who have been using direct action tactics (two weeks back, over 10,000 miners - members of the COB - helped to blockade La Paz against the Army, sealed off the Capital and bombed various state/military targets), the COB itself is taking matters into its own hands.



Declaring in February that the Government had lost all credibility with the majority of the population, and not content to wait for the government's next anti-working class economic plan, the COB, along with a large section of the FACBAPO (a federation of women home workers), felt it was now time to take responsibility for distributing goods, controlling the means of production, and defending/running their own communities.

Not surprisingly, the government and ruling classes have been quick to accuse the COB of 'encoraging it's membership to Civil War'.

In reply, COB's executive secretary, Juan Lechin Oquendo, has denied this allegation and pointed out that the working class were the only sector of society least interested in promoting confrontation. He didn't deny that the country was on the brink of Civil War, but stated that it would be impossible for the working class to win because they had no arms. He said government was now patently redundant and that the workers movement should now abolish its functions and replace it, given the failure of any workable solution to the economic and political problems.

More concretely the COB are planning demonstrations against government policies throughout Bolivia, organising the direct selling of goods (ie without capitalist intervention)between workers, attempting to police their own communities (with citizens' militias), attempting to force down food prices, and encouraging people to boycott the payment of taxes in support of the state.

RIGHT WING CONTROL

Victor Lopez, the COB's International Secretary, has also recently said that it is the right-wing political forces in Bolivia who now exclusively control the means of production and are now actively encouraging conflict, and the erosion of the democratic system. In opposition, it is essential that workers organisations like COB confront the unwillingness of the government to do anything about this. Unfortunately, there is no united front amongst the left-wing political forces and it seems likely that the right will benefit from this at the next general election - hence the even greater need for the COB to follow through their anti-statist tactics and consolidate their anti-government position.

N.B. There is a strong anarchist-syndicalist section with the COB and we have recently heard from the IWA-AIT International Secretariat that this section has recently resumed talks to link up with the anarchist-syndicalist international and create a Bolivian section of the IWA-AIT.

SOURCE : Ariane Gransac

ARGENTINA

More news from Argentina - A national anarchist meeting took place in Mid-October 1984 organised by Jose Ingenieres Bookshop. More than 60 people attended from Cordoba, Mar del Plata La Plata, Olavarria, Rosario, San Miguel Capital Federal and Uruguay.

The Conference lasted 3 days and the topics discussed included syndicalism & anarchism, human rights, Anarchist influence in the workers movement and the start of *Utopia* magazine (a monthly anarchist publication).

Jose Ingenieros Bookshop c/o *Juan Gomez Velasco, 95814, Buenos Aires Argentina.* also want to start an @ publishing group, to overcome the lack of @ literature in Argentina.

BELGIUM

Around 50 policemen, some armed, raided an anarchist meeting place and squat in Liege in early February in search of "guns, drugs and terrorists". One person was knocked unconscious by the butt of a rifle during the raid when he asked the police what was going on.

Police also trashed the house and took six people away for questioning. All six were finally released without charge after sixteen hours of interrogations.

Several daily newspapers reported the raid and published pictures of the trashed Squat complete with healines like *"Scum on Slums!"* and *"A mixture of Katmandu, Vice and prpaganda!"*

ITALY

ITALIAN ACTIVIST MURDERED BY POLICE

On March 9th in Trieste, Italy, the police shot and murdered Pietro Greco, an activist in the Workers Autonomy movement.

The vicious state repression in Italy had forced Pietro to go on the run. He was accused of "subversive association" and participation in an "armed band" (vague charges that made no reference to specific crimes) and of possessing arms (no arms were ever found).

When Pietro returned to his flat in Trieste shortly after 11am on the 9th, police were waiting on the landing. They fired at him on sight. Pietro fled into the street where he was brought down by a hail of bullets. Hit seven times, he died in hospital. The police and newspapers confirm that he was unarmed.

There was an immediate reaction to Pietro's death, with strikes by school students in Padova and counter-information by autonomists denouncing this "premeditated assassination" by the state.

The judges, political parties, and police are condemned for being responsible for the murder of Pietro and for upholding the whole oppressive political and social system in Italy. But, say many comrades, this repression will not succeed - they will continue to fight against the system of exploitation and for a better quality of life, as Pietro himself always did.

More information from:
Centro di Documentazione Antinucleare - antimperialists, Via Belzoni 14, 35121, Padova, ITALY or
Box 81, 43 Candlemakers Row, Edinburgh.

GAETANO BRESCI STATUE

The marble workers of Carrara, Italy have been maintaining their anarchist traditions since the time of the First International. Throughout the resistance to the Monarchy, to the war, to fascism, and throughout the trials of the Second World War and the new Resistance, Carrara remained basically anarchist so far as the quarry was concerned. There are two ironies - one that the stonemasons of Carrara supply the marble for most of the Catholic churches in Europe, the other that, because of their electoral abstention, the Communist Party retains control of the municipality.

But streets are named after Anarchist celebrities, the Anarchist club even appears on the tourist picture postcards, discussions on how Anarchism is progressing abroad take place in the average bar. The municipality has thought it best to appease the workers, since it does not possess the power to wipe them out.

Now there is to be a statue raised in Carrara to Gaetano Bresci, the Anarchist soldier who, in protest against colonial war, shot dead King Umberto I.



ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS

FRANCE- HUNGER STRIKERS

Thierry Maricourt, a French anti-militarist jailed in February 1985 for refusing to complete 1 years obligatory Military Service has come off hunger strike after 32 days. Although he was originally sentenced to six months in jail, he risks being imprisoned for at least another six months immediately after release because he will still be liable for Military Service until Febuary 1986.

Serge Beausoleil, jailed a week after Maricourt for the same reasons, has now come off hunger strike too, after 36 days without food.

Messages of solidarity can be sent: *Thierry Maricourt, ecrou No 743658* and *Serge Beausoleil, ecrou No D2/216743769, c/o Maison d'arret de Fresnes, 1 Avenue de la Division - Leclerc, 94261 Fresnes-Cedex FRANCE*

Enrico Fedele No 741 432 3A/163 an Italian Anarchist under threat of extradition can also be contacted at the above address.

SOURCE: Le Monde Libertaire & L'entr'aide.

ITALY

Anarchist Pippo Scarso has just received a 12 month prison sentence from a military tribunal in La Spezia as a result of his refusal to do obligatory military Service. He has already spent 5 months under house arrest and this will be deducted from the 12 month sentence.

SPAIN

The CNT (Spanish anarcho-syndicalist union and section of the IWA-AIT) is still pursuing its claim by various methods for the return of property and subscriptions stolen by the Falangists in 1939. It may be said that no Government will ever agree to give back what may come to some millions of pounds to an anarchist grouping. This money, however, was contributed by workers week after week to build up printing presses and halls, all of which have been commandeered and none of which have been returned. Furthermore the workers had since been compelled by law to switch their contributions to the Falangist unions which have now been disbanded.

One may argue that it is a lost cause but there is no reason for selling the past and saying it is impossible; there are many ways in which a union with sufficient strength can try to get back what was confiscated, and the CNT is blazing a trail for unions like the National Union of Mineworkers and the print unions here, which have been the victims of Price Waterhouse and the confiscation of funds.

One argument being put forward by Fuerza Nueva (Catholic Action/Falangist) is that if the CNT got back what it has every legal right to, it will subsidise 'anarchist actions' in every country and 'jeopardise Spain's relations with the EEC' (ABC, Nov '84) - other excuses are the split within the CNT or that 'ideological adhesion should not determine lawful succession' (a marvellous Jesuitical sophistry).

There can be no question of the CNT financing particular people (it's full time staff, when it was at the peak of its membership with millions of adherents, totalled one paid secretary. When the Resistance was on, millions of pesetas were collected, or taken from banks by individual action, and not one peseta went astray or for individual gain). There is no reason why an anarchist movement should not finance others abroad, but there is no question of the CNT doing so. It needs every possible support and only the printing presses and prisoners relief collected from abroad helped it to survive the transition to the present. Support is still needed for Spain, and will be even if the CNT got back its halls and presses - the cost of a hall in 1931 might have been £100, today £5000 or more, especially on the Catalan Coast.

Britain and the USA, as well as northern Europe, are countries and sub-continents where the anarchist movement has the task of giving to movements, not people, to help build up anarchist movements abroad. In some countries - the Third World, as an instance, a few Communist countries, and certainly Spain - the anarchist movements need support and only a lunatic, or an artful enemy, would suggest otherwise. It is true some anti-anarchists have been upset that CNT supporters gave support to the British miners' families during the strike. It was something that appealed to Spanish comrades and could not be denied them. But as regards the Anarchist and Anarcho-Syndicalist movements generally, it is they who need to support libertarian actions in Spain, and not the reverse. And the need will be more acute if the CNT regains its presses and halls, as it may also regain its old influence.





THIERRY MARICOURT

Angus McInnes,an Animal Rights campaigner,is being held in Barlinnie prison under the Breach of Bail Act.He is on virtual Hunger Strike.

Send messages of support to: Angus McInnes,Prisoner on Remand, H.M.Prison Barlinnie,Glasgow.

BLACK CROSS

The London Black Cross Group will co-ordinate Black Cross work in the South-East from now onwards. We can be contacted c/o *BM Hurricane, London, WC1 WC1N3XX*

Huddersfield DAM-IWA recently, agreed to co-ordinate Black Cross work in the North-East. They can be contacted c/o *Old Stewards House, Northgate, Huddersfield. HD1 1RL*

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FITZWILLIAM

The Fitzwilliam Prisoners Aid Commitee was set up following the traumatic experience of the Fitzwilliam Nine trial and seeks to help miners in jail 'which ever way possible'.

The Committee has held public meetings, street collections, written letters to the prisoners and financially helped the families of imprisoned miners since then. They welcome support and donations. For more information: *F.P.A.C. c/o 4 Rockingham Street, Fitzwilliam near Pontefract.*

Until all are free we are all imprisoned!

Free the prisoners now!

ADOPT A PRISONER.

ANARCHIST PRISONER

Steve Siwek is an anarchist imprisoned in Missouri Eastern Correctional Centre. He is due to be released in the Spring of 1986, but hopes to start an anarchist prison journal before then, with the help of his fellow inmates. He spent a few weeks in solitary confinement (known as *the hole*) last May for not replying 'Yes Sir' to a Warden, and was recently fired from his 'job' as prison librarian when it was discovered he was sending leaflets to prisoners in solitary. Send solidarity greetings to: *Steve Siwek, No. 048164, 2-A-2, M.E.C.C. 18701 Old Highway 66, Pacific, Mo 63069-9799, USA.*